## Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 EA-09 NEA-10 ISO-00 OMB-01 EB-07 AID-05 OIC-02 /048 R

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R 080326Z DEC 76 FM SECSTATE WASHDC TO AMEMBASSY BANGKOK INFO AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

**UNCLAS STATE 298230** 

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESCAP, OCON

SUBJECT: ESCAP: COMMITTEE ON STATISTICS, SECOND SESSION, TEHRAN, IRAN, DECEMBER 12-18

FOR ROBERT SKIFF

- 1. REGRET DUE TO PRESS OF OTHER BUSINESS, DR. JOSEPH DUNCAN, DEPUTY ASSOCIATE DIRECTOR FOR STATISTICAL POLICY, OMB WILL BE UNABLE TO ATTEND AS U.S. REPRESENTATIVE TO SUBJECT MEETING. DUNCAN WAS USREP TO FIRST SESSION (1974, JAKARTA) AS WELL AS TO RECENT MEETING OF UN STATISTICAL COMMISSION IN NEW DELHI WHERE HE CONSULTED WITH ASIAN/ESCAP REPS ON REGIONAL STATISTICAL MATTERS. HOWEVER, GEORGE HALL, OMB, WHO WILL SERVE IN HIS PLACE, FULLY BRIEFED BY DUNCAN AND CHAVEAS IO/IEP.
- 2. AGENDA AND DOCUMENTATION RECEIVED TO DATE POINT TO A UNCLASSIFIED

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NON-CONTROVERSIAL MEETING. COMMITTEE TERMS OF REFERENCE

AS REPORTED BANGKOK 27591 APPEAR ACCEPTABLE. WHILE THEY STILL DO NOT DIRECTLY ADDRESS THE QUESTION OF THE RELATION-SHIP BETWEEN THE COMMITTEE AND THE ASIAN STATISTICAL INSTITUTE (ASI), THE IMPORTANCE OF THIS ISSUE IS NOW GREATLY DIMINISHED IN LIGHT OF RECENT IMPROVEMENTS IN ASI'S PERFORMANCE

- 3. RE PROGRAM OF WORK AND PRIORITIES, DOCUMENTATION HAS NOT BEEN RECEIVED IN DEPT. IN ADDRESSING THIS AGENDA ITEM, DELEGATION SHOULD BEAR IN MIND CONTINUING U.S. CONCERN THAT PROGRAM CONFORM TO ESCAP PRIORITIES AS ESTABLISHED BY PLENARY AND TO THE LIMITATIONS OF ESCAP BUDGETARY RESOURCES. AT THE FIRST SESSION OF THE COMMITTEE THE U.S. DELEGATION PLAYED AN IMPORTANT AND MUCH APPRECIATED ROLE IN THE WORKING GROUP ESTABLISHED EARLY IN THAT MEETING TO REORIENT THE WORK PROGRAM TO THE PRIORITIES OF REGIONAL COUNTRIES. THE DELEGATION MAY JOIN WITH OTHERS IN CRITICIZING THE SECRETARIAT'S FAILURE TO PROVIDE DOCUMENTATION ON A TIMELY BASIS.
- 4. RE AGENDA ITEM 9 (III), DELEGATION MAY DRAW ON POSITION PAPER PREPARED FOR COMMITTEE ON TRADE, AGENDA ITEM 8 (ESCAP DOCUMENT E/ESCAP/TRADE.20/13 IS IDENTICAL TO E/ESCAP/STAT.2/5).
- 5. RE AGENDA ITEM 12, DELEGATION MAY DRAW ON PAPER PRE-PARED FOR COMMITTEE ON TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS (TWENTY-FIFTH SESSION) AGENDA ITEM 9 WHICH PROVIDES GUIDANCE ON U.S. POSITION REGARDING THE T.C.D.C. CONCEPT.
- 6. RE POSSIBLE SRV PARTICIPATION, U.S. POSITION WAS MADE
  A MATTER OF RECORD AT THE TRADE COMMITTEE MEETING AND
  NEED NOT BE REPEATED HERE. IN THE EVENT DELEGATION IS
  QUESTIONED REGARDING U.S. VIEWS YOU MAY DRAW UPON GUIDANCE
  PROVIDED FOR CCOP AND TYPHOON COMMITTEE MEETINGS. IN THE
  EVENT A MEMBER OF THE SRV DELEGATION IS NOMINATED AS AN
  OFFICER OF THE MEETING, THE U.S. DELEGATION SHOULD VOTE
  NO AND MAKE NO FURTHER COMMENT. ROBINSON

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## Message Attributes

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TAGS: OCON, PORG, ESCAP

To: BANGKOK

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